

Message Text

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41

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 (ADP) W

----- 092934

O R 281130Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4774

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T VALLETTA 1919

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MY, US

SUBJ: MINTOFF COMPLAINT OF POSSIBLE U.S. INTERFERENCE

ROME FOR AMBASSADOR GETZ

REF: STATE 193200

1. CONTENTS REFTEL CONVEYED ORALLY TO CAMILLERI THIS MORNING. HE CLEARLY WAS RELIEVED BY OUR RESPONSE, AND SAID THAT P.M. HAD AUTHORIZED HIM TO SAY THAT THE "STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL" CONCERNED IS FORMER AMBASSADOR PRITZLAFF AND THAT THE POLITICALLY ACTIVE MALTESE WITH WHOM HE IS EXPECTED TO MEET IN LONDON IS MISS MABEL STRICKLAND, LEADER OF THE PROGRESSIVE CONSTITUTIONAL PARTY. HE REQUESTED THAT THIS INFO BE CLOSELY HELD WITHIN USG.

2. AFTER SOME PROBING, CAMILLERI SAID THAT GOM NOT SURE WHETHER PRITZLAFF HAD IN FACT VISITED MALTA, BUT DEFINITELY KNEW THAT HE HAD BEEN IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH MISS STRICKLAND NATIOALIST M.P.S HERE AND WITH THOSE THAT HAD VISITED U.S. HE MENTIONED ONLY NAT. M.P. GUIDO DEMARCO (RECENTLY IN U.S. AS LEADER GRANTEE) AS EXAMPLE OF LATTER.

3. CHARGE TOLD CAMILLERI THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE AMB PRITZLAFF HAD NOT VISITED MALTA SINCE HIS DEPARTURE AND THAT HE BELIEVED THAT HE IS NO LONGER WITH USG. CAMILLERI ASKED IF SECRET

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LATTER POINT COULD BE CHECKED OUT AND CHARGE AGREED TO QUERY WASHINGTON.

4. AT CLOSE OF MEETING CAMILLERI, WHO WAS HIS USUAL LOW KEY

CORDIAL SELF THROUGHOUT, APOLOGIZED FOR "ALL THE FUSS" AND
EXPLAINED THAT P.M. NERVOUS OVER RECENT EVENTS SUCH AS RECENT
NATIONALIST DEMONSTRATION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: CONFIRMATION WHETHER AMB PRITZLAFF STILL
EMPLOYED BY USG AND AUTHORIZATION INFORM CAMILLERI.
TUCKER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VALLET01919
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 XGDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750011-2530
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730964/abqcellf.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: STATE 193200
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <20-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINTOFF COMPLAINT OF POSSIBLE U.S. INTERFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MY, US
To: STATE INFO ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005